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CONTACT: Elisa A. Cusato, Deputy City Attorney, Consumer & Environmental Protection Unit:

533-5500; or Lauri Twomey, Director of Media Relations: 235-5725; Pager: 232-2237, #6273

WATER POLLUTION PENALIZED

City Attorney Announces Civil Settlement

Sullivan Moving and Storage Company has paid \$14,857.68 in civil penalties and costs to settle a water pollution action brought by the San Diego City Attorney's Office.

The lawsuit, filed in San Diego Superior Court, alleged that Sullivan unlawfully caused "Gunk" -- a petroleum based engine degreaser -- to be deposited into the waters of the State. This substance reportedly flowed into the City storm drain system along with truck washing water from Sullivan's Alvarado Canyon Road facility. The City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit investigated the matter after the California Department of Fish and Game and other law enforcement agencies responded to a report of a milky substance with a very strong chemical odor flowing into a nearby drainage channel that feeds into the San Diego River.

Sullivan agreed to settle the case without admitting wrongdoing. Under the terms of the Superior Court judgment, the company must prevent similar storm drain discharges. San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn acknowledged Sullivan for its cooperation with the investigation of the case and for the company's construction of a new truck washing facility designed to prevent discharges to the storm drain.

If you believe you have seen the discharge or disposal of a pollutant, call the Stormwater Pollution Hotline at 533-3793 or your police or fire department.

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